

Amendments to the Specification:

At page 2 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 15 as follows:

According to the invention, a user interface element, e.g. a key or a joystick is tilted against an elastic force, whereas an electrical conductive area at the underside of the user interface element touches a contact matrix at varying positions and thus closes electrical contacts. The closed contacts are related to the tilt of the user interface element, where the closed contacts deliver ~~delive~~ measurement values which are interpreted by ~~by an~~ electronic controller, and where the procedure according to the invention determines the tilt, the direction of activation and the pressure force.

So that the amended paragraph reads:

According to the invention, a user interface element, e.g. a key or a joystick is tilted against an elastic force, whereas an electrical conductive area at the underside of the user interface element touches a contact matrix at varying positions and thus closes electrical contacts. The closed contacts are related to the tilt of the user interface element, where the closed contacts deliver measurement values which are interpreted by an electronic controller, and where the procedure according to the invention determines the tilt, the direction of activation and the pressure force.

At page 9 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 14 as follows:

The contact matrix 15 consists, as shown in FIGS. 14 and 15, of several electrical single contacts 142, 143, 144, 145 and 151 in a contact row, which are mounted on a base plate 14. The contacts are activated by the calotte 12 with its contact coating 18, which can optionally consist of a deformable material that ensures a pressure-dependent number of several contact closings. The calotte consisting of a deformable material may alternatively not be equipped with a contact coating 18 but consist of an electrically conductive material; this is another aspect of the invention. The activation surface of the input element 11 can adopt any geometrical shape of a flat surface. In practice, two specific forms have evolved, a rectangular and a circular shape. The basic shape of the calotte 12 depends on the selected shape of the activation surface 10. Other than the line-sequence arrangement of contacts in the contact matrix 15, another aspect of the invention allows to adapt the form of the contact matrix 15 to the activation surface 10. This allows to operate the input ~~element~~ element 11 to operate like an analog joystick, where the user's movements of the input element 11 are detected.

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At page 15 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 13 as follows:

This shape of a calotte 12 could encounter grid-like conductive paths equipped with contacts, for example, as shown on FIG. 18. With a large number of contact points, the conductive paths must be placed in two electrically separate layers. The right side of FIG. 18 shows an enlarged detail of the conductive paths, the vertical conductive path placed underneath and electrically separate from ~~from~~ the horizontal conductive path. FIG. 19 and FIG. 20 show further examples of such conductive path layouts, where FIG. 20 requires only a single ~~single~~ layer of conductive paths.

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